

ΕΙΛΑΝΘΡΩΠΟΦΑΓΙΑ,

Delineated in

A Mirthless Mirrour | *Mischievously managed*
of the Matchless Misery | by the Merciless Misdemeanour
of a Money-less Minister, | of a money-minded Minister-man,
born in the South | living in the North
of ENGLAND.

OR,

A true NARRATIVE

OF THE

Inexcusable Inhumanity of one Mr. *Timothie Tullie*,
late Preacher at *Carlisle*, now one of the Prebendaries of
the Cathedrall Church of *York*.

ACTED

Against one *Thomas Kentish*, Rector of *Middleton* in
Teasdale within the County of *Durham*.

Timothy the faithful had Epistles holy
Sent him by Paul, yet he a man most lowly;
But tis not so with such as clime so high,
As daily seeks to do this Timothy.

Tullie the Orator was a man of fame,
But so's not every man that hath the name; (ly,
Hear but this Tullie preach, & you'l know full
All you'l say of him, is, his name's Tullie.

Written by the aforesaid *Thomas Kentish*
Minister of the Gospel.

Beware of false Prophets which come to you
in sheeps cloathing, but inwardly they are
ravening wolves. *Mat. 7. 15.*

Yea they are greedy dogs, which ne-
uer have enough, *Ila. 56. 11.*

We must through much tribulation enter into the Kingdom of God,
Acts 14. 22.

Ætas Parentum pejor avis, &c. Hor. lib. 3. Ode 6.

London, Printed in the moneth of December, 1661.

to practise it; by prosecuting the same day after day, week after week, moneth after moneth, unto the extent of 16. months and upwards (he having been thus busied ever since the middle of *August 1660.* without the least visible discovery of repentance in heart, or retrogradation in act :) I could not *in this regard* think it altogether inexpedient, to expand before you the lamentable experience that I have had hereof; being now resolved to rouze up my heavy heart and sadned spirit, with my shaking hand, to pen the story of his harsh demeanour towards me.

Yet what I do herein, shall be with an humble-kneeling heart, as in the presence of the heart-searching God, and with a conscience no less obliged to express the truth, then if my hand were on *the Book*: For what I shall thus declare unto you, shall be nothing else, but what I am able to approve by the testimony of witness sufficiently credible: Or if any thing herein be questioned, of more secret cognizance, I shall (if thereunto called) be ready to aver the same, by sealing it with my own personal oath.

With your leave and favour then, I shall (in a few lines) first signifie my timely access to, together with my comfortable abode in, the Rectory of *Middleton* in *Teasdale* within the County of *Durham*: and then straitway present you with a serious and faithfull Account of the grievous and wofull estate; which the hard usage of the said *Mr. Tullie*, both in and since his dispossessing me thereof, hath undeservedly plunged me into: which is such (all circumstances rightly weighed) as I verily think all *England* will not yield the like!

In doing which, it must not be expected, that my gray-hairs should (according to the present guise) appear in the gaudy garb of Rhetorical garnishes; for indeed not only the gravity of my age, as also my renewed sorrows, but even the very nature of the subject it self, do plainly forbid me either the new-minting or the

curious culling of such a kind of phrase; such a quaintness of expression not at all suiting with the sadness of such a Relation.

My case then with all plainness, morally stated, take as followeth.

IN the year of our Lord, 1648. when the Army made an in-road upon the Parliament, and seled about sixscore members or more from the House; the major part of the remaining Members resolving to bring the late King to tryal for his life; the loyaltie of my affection made me then so far dissent from those proceedings, that I could not but manifest both in prayer and preaching my unfeigned disrellish of the same, till at length I fell under such a disgust with the then Committee for plundered Ministers, that they proved sore Plunderers to me indeed; for they sequestred from me the profits of the Living that I then had, till they had almost undone me with their injurious Actings.

Then about three or four years, after this, the Lord by his providence opening me a way to the aforesaid Rectory of *Middleton*; I could not (being at that time destitute of livelyhood) but accept the same, although it was above eleven score miles distant from my former place of Residence: And being once settled therein with the general approbation of the people, it pleased the Lord (in a short time) so far to engage their hearts unto Me, as is but seldom seen: whose serene aspect I have now enjoyed nine years, or thereabouts.

Howbeit by reason of some heavy debts formerly incurred by means of the said Committee, together with the charges of so vast a Remove; as also other various disbursements since that, for first-fruits, annual tenths, monethly Taxes, and necessary reparations, on, and about the Parsonage house, and its appurtenances; I became so miserably impoverished, that all I had in the World was not sufficient to pay my debts.

Yet having an hundred or six-score pounds *per annum* coming in by means of that Rectory, and my children almost all brought up, I comforted my self with the hopes of enjoying a competent Maintenance among a loving people, during the days of my aged self, and more aged Wife; but *ve misera mihi*, &c. For the very next Summer after the Kings Restoration (the Living being about 200. miles from London, & my age and corporal Infirmities (at that time) rendring me unfit to attend his Majesty with a Petition for my settlement) the said Mr. Tullie, although he never had title to the Living before, and though he had a fair annual Revenue by his Prebendship at York, together with a large and liberal allowance for his Ministerial service in the City of Carlisle, besides a very considerable temporal estate of his own; yet (like a greedy Groll, that never thinks he hath enough) he begg'd away my Living also, though it was the only subsistence I had in the world. And observe this by the way, that whereas the people before were wont to have preaching twice every Sabbath, they are now popt off with a single Sermon, and sometimes not so much, since he usurped the Cure.

And albeit the said Mr. Tullie having got a Presentation to my Living in the said middle of August 1660 (and that meerly by a false suggestion, representing it in his Petition as wholly vacant) should (according to the Act for settling of Ministers) have entred upon it from and after the 29th. of September; yet he suffered me to supply the Place one Sabbath after, without the least acknowledgement of the same; never exhibiting to me the said Presentation till the sixt of October following. Upon sight whereof I (for employment-sake) offered at reasonable terms to officiate the Cure for him; which he refusing to grant, I then bespake him thus, that albeit he had deprived me of my Living, yet I hoped he would not on the sudden dispossess me of my House; whereunto he answered, *That I needed not*

make doubt of holding the house till Christmas at the least; for (said he) the Act concerning Ministers will allow you time to keep it till then.

Now when I seriously pondered, how that my own Estate was (long since) consumed by the means aforesaid, and that even this Rectory (my present and only subsistence) was also taken from me by virtue of the said Presentation; and withall considered the person that had got the same, how that I was to him, not only in age much Superiour, in estate much Inferiour, but also in sufferings for the Royal Family much more transcendent; and yet he in a likely way (besides the devouring of my whole livelyhood) to turn me ere long out of my only habitation likewise, though then of late made very convenient and usefull by a chargeable reparation; *It was* the hardest measure I ever met with, the saddest of outward afflictions that ever seized upon my spirit.

Yet nevertheless, when the said Mr. Tullie (dwelling as yet afar off) came on Lords-days to officiate and preach among the people, I did invite him to dinner two or three several times, and also to a lodging on Saturdays and Lords-days at night, telling him that (if he pleased) he might have a free enjoyment of my best Room ready-furnished. But instead of accepting so civil a proffer, he did most disingenuously demean himself against me very shortly after: for notwithstanding his former speech of my holding the house till Christmas, yet on the eighth of November following (which was near seven weeks before that time, I also being then in London) he demanded of my wife possession of the said House; she answered him that I, her husband, was gone from home, and that she had no order from me to deliver possession in my absence; but if he would please to forbear about nine or ten days space, she told him, that he should by that time have an answer to his demand, or else possession delivered up.

Howbeit he would not be here with satisfied

tified, but six days after, he comes with three of the Sheriffs Bayliffs, and in a cold snowy season, he puts my weak, aged wife, and my feeble, and (at that time) sick daughter, with the rest of my Family altogether out of doors: so that had not some friends given them house-room for that present, and two neighbours voluntarily entered into a Bond of 1500.l. to remove my goods, and so to deliver him up intire possession of the house and out-houses, within ten days then next following; not only the said Sheriffs Bayliffs with great violence and spoil, would forthwith have cast out my goods while they were there present, but even my poor aged wife, with her sick daughter and servants, had all layen abroad that night, although it might have cost them their lives: And being thus forced to so sudden a remove, the said Neighbours were necessitated to hire a little Cottage in the Town, though it would not hold half the goods, there not being a fitter house to be had (at that time) for any rent.

By this means my moveable goods were fain to be put in five or six several houses, and in so many several Mens custodies; my feather-beds layed on heaps at spoiling hand: My Bed-cloaths and other Furniture thrust into dank places, musting for want of good usage: My pewter and brass, and such kind of utensils knocked together, bruised, and rusting for want of meet disposal: My Tables, Chairs, Stools, Court-cupboards of carved work, with the rest of my household-stuff tumbled on heaps, some in one place, some in another, much mangled and decayed for want of room convenient to bestow them in: *Cum multis aliis, quæ, &c.* Oh the unutterable wo and damage that I have thus indured!

And not long after all this, my horses were removed out of my Stable, my Cows out of my Cow-house, my Swine out of their places of shelter; and no small trouble it was (the Neighbours there know) to procure harbour for them elsewhere; every man therabouts having

room little enough (if not too little) for his own Cattel in such a winter season.

And (as if this had been a small matter) to add yet to my wo; my Study (though one of the least Rooms in the House) might not be suffered to hold my Library, no, nor till my return from *London*, though this was more earnestly desired by my friends than any one thing else. Whereupon my books, my loose papers, with other private Manuscripts, were taken forth, and all in a most confused manner tossed together into Chests and Boxes; and so sent some to one neighbours house, some to another.

So that my own Home which was heretofore the place of my greatest contentment, is now become a place of least content; as having now neither Study to retire in, nor other place fit to meditate in, nor books at hand, nor papers or notes in readiness when I have occasion to use them: The want whereof does unavoidably tend, not only to the inexpressible disquiet of my mind, but also to the irreparable loss of my most precious time.

All which considered, I do (as in the presence of the Heart-searching God) seriously profess that the said Mr. *Tullie* could not (in my account) have done me greater injury, although by violence on the Road he should have taken from me six hundred pound of ready money.

And (which yet renders his actings (as all will grant) the more inexcusable; he at that time had no need of the House; for though he had put me to all this wo by dispossessing me thereof; yet neither himself, nor his wife, nor any of his Family (as the neighbours well know) did make any use of the same, or any of the out-houses, for the space of 5. or 6. months together; but all that time did hire one of the Parishioners to lodge therein, only to maintain that possession which he had thus inhumanly wrested from me. *O Monstrum horrendum, informe, &c!*

Moreover after all this, because the said Act of Parliament concerning Ministers

leaves the 29. of September (as a *Casus omnis*) not determining whether the Presentee or his Predecessor, shall have the Profits which become due on that day; therefore the said Mr. Tullie (at or before *New years Tide* then next following) demanded of the Parishioners the money due for Tithe hay that grew the Summer then last past, and was by custom payable on *Michaelmas* day, as if he himself had had more right to that 20. l. or 30. l. of Tithe hay money, who had never taken the least pains for it, then I who had performed the whole years Ministerial service. (How incongruous these demands of my Adversary were to the rules of equity and good conscience, I dare leave it not only to every judicious Reader, but to any impartial & unbiassed person whatever, though never so scandalous, or debauched, to make judgement of the same.)

At which time being returned from *London*, and hearing of those his demands, I went and told him that he had no right to any profits there, but what should (according to the said Act) become due from and after the 29. of September, and that therefore he should not (with my consent) have any of the aforesaid Tithe hay money, unless he could recover it by Law: Whereunto he replied little at the present; but after I was gone, his own man reported he heard him say, *Seeing I loved Law, I should have Law enough.*

Whereupon about the beginning of the next February he caused me to be arrested to answer him in five several Actions of very trifling trespasses, as treading on the gleab land in the month of January, and such like; in all which I never did him so much as one penny worth of wrong. And over all these he caused me to be seryed at the same time, with a Chancery *Subpoena* to answer to as Causeless a Bill of Complaint about Dilapidations, wherein he (most unjustly) charges me with 151 l. 1 s. 3 d. for ruines about the said Parsonage House, and its appurtenances; when as 'tis well known, and hath been as often and voluntarily acknowledged by the neigh-

bours, that more hath been bestowed on the said Rectory by way of reparation in those few years I enjoyed it, then in any former time within the memory of man.

Now what unprejudiced person but will condemn such unheard of insatiableness? What plea himself can make, I know not, unless that of the Poet, *Crescentem sequitur cura pecuniam*. He in the first place begs away my living over my head; and next, to make me amends for my chargeable reparations, he *ex professo* sues me for dilapidations. (It makes me call to minde those ravenous and greedy Beasts, mentioned by our Saviour in *Mat. 7. 15.* and by the Prophet in *Isa. 56. 11.*) But the Lord of comfort (I trust) after I have suffered a while will find a time to deliver me from all such unreasonable men.

You have not seen all yet; for though he had thus begg'd away my living, thrust me out of my dwelling, exhausted me by so many vexatious suits in Law, of which you shall see more by and by; yet this would not content him; but (as if he would be sure to disable me from defending my self) he caused the said Sheriffs Bayliffs on the 4th. or 5th. of the said February to secure out of my hands, all my vendible goods that were abroad, and in the Barn and out-houses, as Cattel, Corn, Hay, Straw, some Timber, and many other necessities; so that I had nothing left at liberty to make money of, neither for present necessity in this deplorable condition, nor yet to extricate my self from under his griping oppression.

The truth is, such were my unspeakable straits at that present by reason thereof, that when I was shortly after to travel again to *London*, and not to return home for two moneths space, and more, I was forced (to my great grief) to leave my dearly beloved wife almost wholly destitute of all kind of necessities, for the subsistence of her self and family during the time of my absence; being no wayes able to furnish her with so much as one half peck of bread-corn, nor one half peck of beer-

beer-corn, nor yet one half crown in money; all the money I then had or could procure, being too too little to bear my own charges in a journey of so many scores of miles.

And no small aggravation of my grief this was, especially when I considered her parentage, education, large portion, present age, &c. she having been a Gentlemans daughter of good worth and quality, very tenderly educated, one that hath brought me an estate of many hundred pounds value, hath been my dearly loving yoak-fellow almost 37. years; and her self now aged almost 70. years; and withall so much decayed in strength, that she needed to have expended on her self more in a week, then she by any means could have got in a moneth. So that had not the Lord in mercy moved the charity of some Christians in London for my supply, both my self and wife (long before this) might have perished for want of bread.

Who that hath the bowels of a man, will not abhor such inhumanity? first, to reduce another undeservedly to such straits as to be ready to perish through want; and then in the mean while willfully keep his goods from him, and at the spoiling hand too, through want whereof he is continued in that perishing condition. Yet such (and no other) was the humanity of my Adversary towards me; for to instance only in the aforesaid detained Corn; which (what with mice, mustiness, and growing by reason of its dampness) was in that interim so exceedingly spoiled, that afterward (when I had obtained an Order for its delivery) I was forced to make off a considerable part of the same, for less then half what it would have yeilded, might I but have had it to have sold in season.

And when the said Order was once obtained, (though he would not deny me the said corn it self, yet) then he denied to allow me time sufficient for threshing the same in the Barn, and so forced me to remove it thence and thresh it else-where; and yet made no use of the Barn himself for divers moneths following: by which willful

churlishness of his, I sustained (not only an unnecessary charge in removing it, but withall) an unavoidable loss by its waste in the removal.

Give me leave to hint yet some other things, which I being quite deprived of, know not wel how to omit the mention of; as namely two usefull Glafs-Cases of Joyners work, which (for antiquity sake) I could not but prize, as also my Study shelves, with a fair Writing board, besides very many necessarie shelves in other rooms of the house; together with several such like Conveniences, which I do not so much as *once* mention, although neither the one nor the other ever came there but at my charge: Now because my neighbours that in my absence managed the remove, being bound (as aforesaid) in a bond of 1500. l. to deliver up full possession within ten days, were forced (through want of time) to leave those conveniences behinde; therefore the said Mr. Tullie (without tender of the least satisfaction) makes bold to ingross them all to himself, claiming them as his own proper goods, meerly because they are fastned to the Freehold, which else could be no way serviceable: Yet, if (at length) upon no other account but this, he do become the owner of them; he (for his part) may thank mans Law more then Christs Gospel for that gain; And I (for my part) may too-too justly (with a small alteration) apply that ancient Poetical passage to him, which was long since applied to another Creature, differing from him in kind, but not much in carriage;

— *Sua me vestigia terrent,*
Omnia se adversum spectantia, nulla retrorsū.

Here is yet one thing more before I close, & woful it is to me that I have any such thing to write. Two of the forementioned volous suits, being in August last 1661. prosecuted against me at Durham-Assises; and proof being brought that I had trespassed against the said Mr. Tullie, I was cast in both the said suits; and albeit (the Al-seeing God know) I did him not one penny worth of wrong therein, yet (as a new addition to all my other woes) besides the loss of my own charges, I was (within few days after) arrested and so compelled to pay to him eleven pound, fourteen shillings, and four pence, every

(every penny of it with borrowed money) to prevent immediate personal imprisonment upon that very account: In pursing of which he made not the least scruple, notwithstanding the loss of my whole livelihood by him, as also the manifold causeless injuries I had over and above received from him.

*O scelus, cum dolosi spes refulsit nummi!
quid non mortalia pectora cogis
Auri sacra famas?
Sed pudet hac opprobria nobis.*

The Summ of all.

Now do but a little reflect with me upon the whole together, and I have done; For such a poor aged Minister as I am, not guilty (in State-account) either of crime or scandal, To be thus on a sudden deprived of, yea divorced from a dearly loving, & beloved people; a people to whom I was so fast linked by the bonds of affection, that I would not voluntarily have deserted them, though to have gained thereby the best Rectory in England; and a people to whom with an unwearied industry I was holding forth the word of life for the welfare of their souls, and that notwithstanding good hopes of bringing the ignorant to the knowledge of the truth, of turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, and so of making ready a people prepared for the Lord.

To be (I say, notwithstanding my innocence) thus dealt withal, at a suit managed, and that by the unwarrantable suggestion of one, who is not only my Junior by almost 20. years, but one who never had any former title to the said Rectory; one towards whom I was never guilty (before this attempt) of the least demerit in all my days, and one likewise who never suffered a tenth part of that woe for loyal affection to the Royal Family that I have done. And yet to be thus driven from my flock, & constrained to leave them as sheep without a shepherd, by being forced to trust their precious souls with such (even such) an one whose unconscionable negligence loudly proclaims him a Soul-slayer, and whose unfairable avarice as plainly declares him a mere self-seeker, one that minds the fleece more than the flock, and seeks their goods before their good.

And next, to be not only rent from my flock, but thrust out of my house too, my only habitation, and that after so tedious a remove to it, so costly a reparation of it, so difficult a procurement of many chargeable necessities in it, with many other useful accommodations about it, And so at once stript raked of all livelihood from a foregoing comfortable subsistence, and withal to be exhausted with so many causeless, vexatious, expensive suits in Law, and not only so, but also (through the groundless detaining of my vendible goods) plunged into sundry deep debts, which as yet I am no ways able to repay.

And farther (which is yet a greater grievance,

if greater can be) to be forced to spend my precious time in waste for want of a Study (and when I have but a little behind too, my Sun being almost set) To have no Ministerial employment, no place to remove to, no means to pay for removal, much less to provide necessities for my self and family when removed, Being ashamed to beg, not able to dig, and altogether unfit to seek about for preferment, by reason of age.

All these premises put together, & duly weighed, I suppose my Case may well be thought without parallel or precedent since the first sitting of the long Parliament.

Thus dearly beloved Christians, you have had a plain, but true relation (& that with as much brevity as I could) of some of the merciless actings of my adversary, together with the miserable sufferings of my self by reason thereof.

Now as touching my Adversary, be pleased so far to tender (with me) his eternal good, as to beg in his behalf, that he may have such humiliation for, such repentance from, and forgiveness of his sin, as that these his merciless actings, and cruel oppressions may never interpose between him and the God of mercy to intercept his obtaining of mercy at the great day, but that he may find plenteous mercy at Gods hands, though I have found so little at his.

And as touching my self, I have this request, that as you have been made acquainted with the flowings of my drooping heart, with the breathings of my sorrowful spirit, together with my sad and sinking state, so I might be made partaker of some seasonable and reviving support, that as I am a sufferer of causeless deprivation, so I may be (the rather) an object of Christian commiseration.

But that's my least request, I more especially beseech you, that when you are at the throne of grace on your own behalfs, you would implore the prayer-hearing God on my behalf, that seeing he hath marked me out to endure such heavy oppressions, he would spirit me, so to bear the same, that it may appear I have been all this while, not only a Minister, but a Christian in good earnest; & that, being still to pass through such multiplied tribulations, he would also furnish me with such undaunted courage, that I may not faint until his set time for my deliverance out of worldly Thralldom, and my entrance into his own Kingdom, shall be fully accomplished.

For which time patiently to hope, cheerfully to wait, with a humble, constant submission to the will of the Lord, is the fervent desire of him, who (though at present in a deprived estate and comfortably lives, yet nevertheless) unfaindly loves, all that love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity.

Thomas Kenisb.